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President seems fully bent on changing this vicious, suicidal policy, and introducing one that shall ensure justice and kind treatment to our red brethren. His professions are worthy of all commendation; and in the character of the trustworthy, Christian man he has selected to carry out his new policy, we find the best guaranty we could have of its success in securing permanent peace and friendship with our Indian tribes.

REDUCED MILITARY PREPARATIONS.—Another sign of progress is the large reduction of our army and navy made not only with the full acquiescence of our people, but in response to their demand. Our increased difficulties for a time with the Indians furnished a plausible excuse for continuing the former on a larger scale than usual; but we can imagine no decent apology for spending one dollar where we now spend ten or fifty upon our navy. It is a huge, most expensive superfluity. There is hardly a shadow of excuse for it; and we are glad to find it of late in a course of large and rapid reduction. There ought to be, and really is now no need of anything more than a sort of *Ocean Police* on behalf of all civilized nations for enforcing the law of nations on the high seas.

It was of course expected that the rebellion war would be followed by a very large increase of interest among our people in military matters; but in this we have been happily disappointed. So far, indeed, from being an increase, there has been, taking the whole country, North and South, a decrease of interest in such matters. A certain class of low political aspirants obviously built high hopes on an expected diffusion of a military mania through the land; but these hopes have for the most part proved delusive. Not four years have passed since we disbanded nearly a million troops; and now the mass of our people seem little, if any more inclined than before the rebellion to waste either money or time on the farce of militia drills, and they are likely to fall more and more into disrepute.

Along with these indications there is slowly rising over the land an increased interest in the cause of Peace; not by any means such as there ought to be, but much more in prospect than there has been. We find still a great deal to deplore; but, while the general Pulpit is dumb, and the religious Press strangely asleep on the subject, we see on every side proof of a slowly increasing interest on the subject.

Just now our people are giving a curious proof of their peaceful habits. While all England is reported as highly excited by the failure of the Johnson-Clarendon treaty, and foreboding war, the mass of our citizens seem perfectly calm, and have no serious thought of war as the result in any event. While retaining their long-settled views of the right and the wrong in the case, scarce one in ten or a hundred dreams of ever appealing to the sword in the case, but expects, as a matter of course, that the controversy, however long continued, will be settled at last only by peaceful means. Hence we have never shared the fears of our brethren in England on this subject, but have from the

first confidently expected that this dispute, as indeed all others between us and England, would effectually be adjusted without bloodshed. On what precise terms, it is not ours to say, since we are mainly anxious, as peace men, that all such controversies shall be settled without war.

SPECIAL NEED OF FUNDS.—In sustaining a scale of operations so large as we have briefly sketched, we shall of course require a large increase of means, and of co-workers. Our Committee, in undertaking it, supposed we should need, as a financial basis indispensable to full or even moderate success, not less than ten thousand dollars; and in carrying out our plan of both publications and of lecturing agencies, we ought to have reliably secured more than twice that amount. With such a capital, we might make our cause felt through the land; nor will we doubt that we may ere long secure such an amount of funds in a cause so vastly important. It can be done, and will be, if our friends once resolve it shall be. They have wealth enough if they will only use it in this way; and when they come to receive the cause in its true light as second to few others, we cannot believe they will continue to withhold the means indispensable to its full success. The God of Peace has all hearts in his hand, and when it shall so please him, he can influence not one man only worth millions, but many such, to endow this great cause of God and a bleeding world with ample means for the prosecution of its great work on a scale commensurate with its vast importance.

DECEASE OF FRIENDS.—Our cause has lost during the year some of its most distinguished friends—**ISRAEL W. PUTNAM, D.D.**, one of the earliest members of our Society, a personal friend of its founder, William Ladd;—**SAMUEL FESSENDEN, LL.D.**, also a life-long friend of Mr. Ladd, for many years a Vice-President of our Society, and for more than forty years at the head of the bar in Maine;—**JOSHUA P. BLANCHARD, Esq.**, for more than fifty years an earnest, devoted friend of our cause, a co-worker from its start with Worcester and Channing, always ready with pen and purse to aid it, his mind to the last teeming with plans for its advancement. All these had reached a ripe old age, the latter eighty-six, and the other two nearly of the same age.

ANNUAL PROCEEDINGS.

The American Peace Society held its fortieth anniversary in Boston, May 26th, 2 p. m., at its office. The annual address had been delivered on the Sabbath evening previous, May 23d, in the School Street Church, by Rev. A. A. Miner, D.D., President Tufts College. The President, Howard Malcom, D.D., LL.D., presided, and opened the exercises with prayer and brief remarks. At the close, a vote of thanks was passed to the proprietors of the Church for its use, and to the choir for their acceptable services on the occasion. The Society subsequently voted its thanks to Dr. Miner for his able and interesting Address, and requested a copy for publication.